Appl. No. 10/820,586 Amdt. dated December 20, 2005 Reply to official action of September 20, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-11 (Cancelled).

Claim 12 (New): A method for operating an electronic parcel compartment system, whereby information of users of the electronic parcel compartment system is acquired, the method comprising:

assigning a user to a user group on the basis of the acquired information; enabling a user to have access to a selection of several functions of the electronic parcel compartment system via controls of the electronic parcel compartment system depending on the user group to which the user belongs; and

effectuating control of the access possibilities in such a way that, after assignment of a user to at least one specific user group, a function can be activated that causes an essentially simultaneous opening of several parcel compartments.

Claim 13 (New): An electronic parcel compartment system with a user interface, the user interface comprising a means for acquiring information from users of the electronic parcel compartment system, the electronic parcel compartment system comprising:

means for assigning the user to user groups on the basis of the acquired information; a system control that allows a user to have access to a selection of several functions of the electronic parcel compartment system, depending on the user group to which the user belongs; and

means to effectuate the control of the access possibilities in such a way that, after assignment of a user to at least one specific user group, a function can be activated that causes an essentially simultaneous opening of several parcel compartments.

Claim 14 (New): The parcel compartment system of claim 13, wherein the means for assigning the users to user groups makes this assignment on the basis of information transmitted via a data line.

Claim 15 (New): The parcel compartment system of claim 13, wherein the means for assigning users to user groups is connected to the user interface in such a way that the information acquired from the user interface is available to said means for the assignment of the users.

Claim 16 (New): The parcel compartment system of claim 15, wherein the means for assigning the users to user groups makes this assignment on the basis of information transmitted via a data line.

Claim 17 (New): The parcel compartment system of claim 13, wherein the assignment to the user groups is performed by acquiring user identification information and by making a comparison of the user identification information to an entry in a database.

Claim 18 (New): The parcel compartment system of claim 13, wherein different access authorizations to functions of the electronic parcel compartment system can be selected for different user groups.

Claim 19 (New): The parcel compartment system of claim 13, wherein at least one of certain parcel compartments and groups of parcel compartments are accessible only to certain user groups.

Claim 20 (New): The parcel compartment system of claim 18, wherein the assignment of the parcel compartments to the user groups can be changed.